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Applicants: Economides et al.
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Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION DATED 2 AUGUST 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction action issued 2 August 2006 in the above-referenced case. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are shown in the listing of claims beginning on page 2; and

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims:

Please cancel claims 3-5, 12-15, and 17-19 without prejudice to their renewal in a related patent application.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a bone morphogenetic protein (BMP)-related disorder or condition, comprising administering a BMP antagonist to a subject suffering from a BMP-related disorder or condition, wherein the BMP-related disorder or condition is treated, wherein the BMP antagonist is human noggin (hNOG) (SEQ ID NO:2), a noggin variant, or a fragment thereof capable of acting as a BMP antagonist.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the BMP-related disorder or condition is heterotopic cranial synostosis, fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva (FOP), or sclerostosis.

3-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the hNOG variant is a deletion mutant hNOGΔB2 (SEQ ID NO:10).

7-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A method of blocking biological activity of a bone morphogenetic protein (BMP) in a subject, comprising administering an agent capable of blocking BMP biological activity, wherein the BMP antagonist is human noggin (hNOG) (SEQ ID NO:2), a noggin variant, or a fragment thereof capable of acting as a BMP antagonist.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the BMP-related disorder or condition is carnosynostosis or fibrodysplasia ossificans progressiva (FOP).

12-15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 12, wherein the hNOG variant is hNOG Δ B2 (SEQ ID NO:10).

17-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the progress of a bone morphogenetic protein (BMP)-related disorder or condition, comprising administering ~~the pharmaceutical composition of claim 19~~ human noggin (hNOG) (SEQ ID NO:2) or hNOG Δ B2 (SEQ ID NO:10) to a subject suffering from a BMP-related disorder or condition, wherein the BMP-related disorder or condition is treated.